



# Sandal Prints



Newsletter of the Capuchin Mission Office  
PO Box 153 Leichhardt NSW 2040

October 2016



**The latest news and activities of our Capuchin Missionaries**



**From the St. Padre Pio Centre of Australia  
Feast Day Mass & Veneration of Relics**

## IN THIS ISSUE...

**Dear Friends,**

We wish to thank you all for your continuous support, for your prayers and generous donations towards the Missions; special thanks to all our St. Padre Pio devotees for your kind comments and suggestions during this year.



In this issue we share the latest news and missionary work of our **Capuchin Friars in East Timor**. As we mentioned in the newsletter in July, our Mission Office helped to finish the construction of the Chapel of **Carui**, a village in Timor.

Recently, we acquired a **motorbike** that helps our **Fr. Luan Le OFM Cap** in his extensive pastoral work.

This year we include a brief story about the **founder** of our Mission Office: **Fr. Vincent Ryan OFM Cap**, the first Australian Capuchin.

Last May our **St. Padre Pio Centre of Australia** received a second authentic relic : a **mitten** worn by the saint to hide his Stigmata on his hand. The relic was brought by the Provincial of the Capuchin Province of St. Angelo (Italy).

We were more than blessed to meet all the devotees in the **Veneration of Relics and Memorial Feast Day Mass** in honour of **St. Padre Pio of Pietrecina**, celebrated in our St. Fiacre's Parish in September. We also acknowledge all that joined us in the prayers during the **Novena of Masses**. We keep the two relics in our office in Sydney.

As part of our changes, you can follow us on our **Facebook** pages: **Capuchin Mission Australia** and **St. Padre Pio Centre of Australia**. Thanks to all our friends who liked us and post comments.

Our special thanks to our director **Fr. Greg Rowles OFM Cap**. who kindly prepare and publish all the news on Facebook, to the Capuchin Franciscan Friars, to our volunteers, specially **Maria Donohue**, for her great support and, once more, to **Fr. John Cooper OFM Cap**, our former director, for his article about Fr. Vincent.

From all our office staff, we wish to all of our community of friars, benefactors and friends a **Blessed Christmas** and a **Wonderful 2017!**

**Daniela Santillan,**  
Secretary

## NEWS FROM THE MISSIONS IN TIMOR

(By Fr. Luan Le OFM Cap.)

On the 24th May the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, **the Chapel of Cairui**, was consecrated to the Glory of God. Cairui (a village situated about 12 km from Laleia) has not had a permanent chapel for religious services for over 30 years. Our Mission **Office** played a small part in helping to construct the chapel.



Our Capuchin Lay Missionary Berni Sullivan (right) during the celebrations



## NEWS FROM THE MISSIONS IN TIMOR

(By Fr. Luan Le OFM Cap.)

Early June our Provincial **Fr. Gary Devery OFM Cap.** from the Australian Capuchin Province visited our fraternity in Tibar. He joined the Portuguese friars Fr. Fernando and Fr. Hugo (general definitors from Rome) during the celebration receiving 13 young men into **aspirancy program**. Please pray for the brothers as they discern their vocation as Capuchin Friars.



During the month of June, the statue of Sacred Heart of Jesus visited different chapels and Mass stations. Some villages don't have regular Sunday Mass, Confession nor Anointing of the Sick. The people took the opportunity to receive the sacraments and the Mass was celebrated with much enthusiasm and singing.



## NEWS FROM THE MISSIONS IN TIMOR

(By Fr. Luan Le OFM Cap.)

During August there was a **vocation promotion at Maubisse**. Along with myself , there were 2 Poor Clare sisters and 2 of our Postulants. We headed up to the mountains for the vocation promotion. Around 40 young people participated in the program. There were talks, discussions, Taize, confessions, Mass, visits to the sick and also games.



During our monthly activities in Estado, our catechist Miguel took me to an isolated village called **Lumo**. There are about 70 families, one primary school and no hospital or medical assistance. During the rainy season this place is accessible by walk or motorbike. We administered sacraments and medical care, as we usually carry some simple medication. **Thanks to all our supporters! The recently acquired motorbike helps us in our pastoral work in two dioceses (Maliana and Dili)**



## A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF FR.VINCENT RYAN OFM Cap. (By Fr. John Cooper OFM Cap.)



**JAMES AUGUST "VINCENT de PAUL" RYAN**<sup>(1)</sup> was born at the Burilda Private Hospital at Gower St Summerhill, Sydney on the 12th July 1923, the first son of Vera and James Ryan. He was educated by the Christian Brothers.

Because his family had a close association with the Marist Fathers he joined them at Toongabie at the beginning of 1945 and began his novitiate that same year. He took temporary vows in 1946 and immediately began the seminary courses. He was dispensed in 1948 and worked for about two years in his father's meat business.

**The Capuchins had arrived in Sydney in 1946.** On November 4th there was a Civic Reception held for them in Leichhardt Town Hall. **Two years later James August Ryan "Vincent" joined the Capuchins** and was sent to New Jersey to do his novitiate. He was Perpetually Professed on the 24th July 1954. He did his studies in the Province of Pennsylvania at Capuchin College Washington DC.



When his studies were completed he returned to Sydney, where he was **ordained** by Cardinal Gilroy, on the **30th July 1955, in St. Mary's Cathedral; Fr. Vincent De Paul Ryan was the first Australian Capuchin.**

He taught for two years in the Seminary at Plumpton, then a few years of pastoral work in the parishes of Harvey (WA), Yenda, Hawthorn, and Wynnum Central until 1962 when Fr. Vincent was assigned to Leichhardt.

From **1962-1991** he was in charge of and responsible for the **Seraphic Mass Association** and **Capuchin Mission Office**, which he started, modelling the office on that of the Pittsburgh province. The Mission Office was his great love and an enduring link with the rest of the Province. He worked at all hours of the day and night handwriting letters to people all over the country.

Above all he had a great affection for the American Missionaries working in New Guinea as they were from the Province of Pittsburgh. He met and cared for every need of the missionaries who came through Sydney.

Towards the end of his life he slowed down a great deal and the ladies of the Mission Office took on more and more of the work that he could no longer do. True to character, he had not wanted to go to a doctor and was determined to keep going. But he knew that his time was up. He had a heart attack on the morning of 5th December 1991. His funeral at St. Fiacre's Church in Leichhardt was presided by the first Capuchin Bishop of Mendi, Bishop Firmin Schmidt OFM Cap.

**(1)** This life story can be found in **the Necrology of Friars who have worked in the Province of Australia**, Handbook of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of Australia 2003.



## OUR ST. PADRE PIO CENTRE OF AUSTRALIA

On Friday 27th **May 2016** the Provincial of the Capuchin Province of St Angelo (Italy) along with the editor in chief of the "Voice of Padre Pio, the secretary and the Manager of the English Office, visited our Centre in Sydney.

They presented an authentic relic of the saint, a **mitten** worn by the saint during the celebration of Mass to hide his Stigmata on his hand. This is the second relic given to our Centre; both are in our office at the **Capuchin Friary** in Leichhardt.



Continuing with their spiritual assistance our Capuchin Franciscan Friars offered a **No-vena of Masses** in honour of **St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina** from 15th to 23th September. Thank you to all our benefactors who sent your intentions for the Masses; be assured our friars prayed for all your intentions.



**On Sunday 18th September** our St. Padre Pio Centre of Australia joined the Friars at St. Fiacre's Church in Leichhardt to celebrate the **Memorial Mass** and Veneration of the two relics of the saint. The Mass was led by our parish priest **Fr. Joshy Parapully**.

A large number of parishioners, devotees and members of the **St. Padre Pio prayer group of Leichhardt** participated in the celebration, despite the rainy morning that not allowed to pray at the shrine outside the church, followed by a procession.



We acknowledge to our parishioners **Patricia** and **Rosaria** for beautifully arranged the flowers, to **Domenica** who prepared and played the hymns, and to **Moira** who handed out the booklets.

Special thanks to the Italian newspaper **La Fiamma** for kindly publish our Mass invitation.

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS OF AUSTRALIA!

We, from the **Capuchin Mission Office** and from the **St. Padre Pio Centre of Australia**, on behalf of the **Capuchin Franciscan Friars**, want to acknowledge all our friends for your continuous prayers and support. Our humble contribution to the Missions and our efforts to spread the devotion of St. Padre Pio in Australia cannot be possible without your help.

From our spiritual Director **Fr. Greg Rowles OFM Cap** and from the ladies of the office, we wish you all the graces of **Christmas**; be assured you will be included in the Spiritual Bouquet of a **Novena of Masses** offered for all your intentions.

All the Blessings for the **New Year 2017!**



Capuchin Mission Australia  
St Padre Pio Centre of Australia

Dear Friends,

Our office will be closed from the 23rd December 2016 and will re-open on the 19th January 2017.